

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 627 without my signature.

I want California children to embrace healthy lifestyles because the individual and societal benefits of good nutrition and physical activity lead to life-long accomplishments. Reducing childhood obesity can lead to fewer adults with chronic health conditions and lower healthcare costs. Unfortunately, this bill would create pressure to add Proposition 98 General Fund resources to the Child and Adult Care Food program when funding for so many other education programs has been cut. It is simply not possible to initiate a new program in a fiscal environment such as this.

I would ask the sponsors to work with the state Department of Education to include information regarding healthy nutrition and physical activity guidelines in existing newsletters to child care providers to the extent this can be accomplished within existing resources.

For this reason, I regret that I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger